

# THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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The News is the Official Paper of the Board of Public Instruction of DeSoto County, also Publishes All the County Commissioners Reports and Proceeding.

## SUCCESSFUL POULTRY RAISING BY MRS. E. PROUTY

Who Is One of the Most Successful Raisers of Profitable Birds in South Florida. Article Written By Her at the Request of the Editor, Which Will Be Of Interest To All Who Keep a Flock.

Since the visit of the young people who attended the agricultural short course held in this city week before last, and since their visit to the home of Mrs. Olive S. Prouty, who is noted for her success in chicken raising, so many inquiries have been made by letter along certain lines of the work, that Mrs. Prouty has been requested by us to write an article for publication. She kindly consented to do so, and we are sure that the following from the pen of Mrs. Prouty will be found interesting to many of our readers. The article says:

"The best remedy for sorehead is not to have it all in the flock. After sorehead is deep seated a complete cure is doubtful. The reason for this is the fact that sorehead is constitutional, not climatic. Permit me to digress to say that Florida in all the elements to raise pure poultry is the banner state. It is naturally a climate for pure birds. We will summarize our methods, which have proven with us to be most satisfactory, but do not for a moment think that we can in this space say all that can be said on this subject.

"In the first place, confine your stock to pure bloods. Have no crosses, or mixed bloods, on the premises. In this respect one brood is as good as another, only let the stock be pure. Do not breed pullets that have not moulted. Mate cockerels with hens, and cocks with pullets. Work for strong constitutions. Only a bird suffering with debility will have sorehead.

"Now, assuming that you have a hatch from good eggs, do not feed the chicks nor give them drink for at least forty-eight hours. For the first ten days or two weeks feed clean crushed oats. Give no wet food of any kind during this period. For the drink use pure fresh water. Very fine charcoal and as fine grit is to be placed in dishes easily accessible. Following this, give the chicks of the same water used for the flock, that is to say, a ratio as of one teaspoonful of copperas to a pail of water.

"The feed now is made up of ground corn, some crushed oats, shorts and wheat. In a week or so the crushed oats can be omitted. Feed ground corn and wheat sparingly, but wheat bran and shorts about evenly mixed can be kept before them all the time. See that they have fine grits and charcoal. We never use commercial chick feeds. And above all things keep the brooders clean. To prevent dampness and sweating, we keep on the floor of the brooders and the brooder houses a depth of at least an inch of clean sand. All droppings can easily be raked out of this sand every day with a fine-tooth rake that is easily made.

"From now on the chicks are fed very much the same as the poultry flock. Cracked corn, wheat and oats are the best rations in the world for poultry. In the noon mash we now add salt. Mix a teaspoonful of common salt in a quart of pure water, and make as much mash of wheat bran and shorts as will crumble nicely in the hand. Be careful not to give too much salt, or to make mash too wet, as it will produce indigestion. Of course poultry must have plenty of green food. To the noon mash add a teaspoonful of common soda about three times a week. Summed up, we feed in the morning freely of dry wheat bran and shorts in boxes; at noon are given the mash; in the evening the flock is fed cracked corn and wheat. If we are making meat we increase the corn; if we are making eggs we give mostly wheat. If the poultry are penned we cut green feed, and make it just damp enough to make wheat bran stick to it, and feed it in boxes in the afternoon. Always have plenty of fresh water at the door of the poultry houses when the birds come out.

"At this age we take it that no one who has any practical knowledge of poultry raising will give the birds anything better than trees and fences for roosts. The colony houses must be kept clean if you will have healthy birds. Our houses are made with dropping boards about two feet from the floor, and the perches about eight inches above the dropping boards. These are cleaned every morning and thoroughly dusted with slacked lime. It is a common thing for the birds to enter their houses to rest during the day. A healthy

## \$100,000 BRIDGE CONNECTING PUNTA GORDA AND CH. HARBOR

Will Be Under Construction Within the Next Twenty Days. Commissioner Hagan Will Shortly Complete Tamiami Trail Through District No. 2, DeSoto County.

Mr. L. L. Barnhill, of Charlotte Harbor, was in the city today on business, and while here paid the News a much appreciated call. Mr. Barnhill is feeling good over the fact that his little city will soon be connected with Punta Gorda by a splendid concrete bridge nearly one and one-half miles in length. The contract for the construction of this bridge was let to Stamm & Son, of St. Petersburg, the contract price being a little over one hundred thousand dollars. Work will begin on the structure within the next twenty days, according to Mr. Barnhill, and the bridge is to be completed within one year's time.

Mr. Barnhill also says that Commissioner Hagan of District No. 2, this county, is beginning work on the last two-mile stretch of the Tamiami Trail through his district, which will be speedily completed, thus making a hard surfaced road over this trail from the Manatee line through his district.

## DRAINAGE WORK ON COON PRAIRIE NEARLY DONE

Five Thousand Acres Will Be Under Complete Drainage. Thus Redeeming Some of DeSoto County's Best Farming Lands. The Cost of the Drainage Will Be About \$25,000, or Approximately \$5.00 Per Acre. Mr. Harker Erecting Handsome Home In This Section.

Mr. Harker who, about five years ago, purchased a farm three miles east of the city on Coon Prairie, is erecting an up-to-date, two-story eight-room residence. Mr. Harker began his career in farming with some misgivings, but he is making good in every direction. He now has about 1,000 citrus trees growing, while in the meantime he is doing general farming, from which he is supporting his family, and will in a short time have a citrus grove that will make him independent. In addition to the farming interests, Mr. Harker is doing well with his poultry business. We congratulate him in the success he is having, and believe any one else can have the same who will go about the matter persistently and intelligently. A few years ago the Coon Prairie land was looked upon as being valueless, but with the draining of this section, more than 5,000 acres of which is now nearly completed, we expect soon to see this a great farming community.

### Concert Sunday—

Next Sunday afternoon at the band stand near Rosin's store the band will give a sacred concert. This will be at 3 o'clock. Rev. Chester Sprague will deliver an address on Pilate's question, "What shall I do with Jesus which is called Christ?" This service is not denominational, and will be a plain religious address. The band will furnish music for the occasion. Those who were fortunate enough to hear the sacred concert on Sunday, October 22, will doubtless be present again, as it was most delightful, as well as hopeful.

All the citizens are urged to come out and hear this concert, as it will be of material advantage to the band and Rev. Chester Sprague to see that the citizens are co-operating with them. Remember next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

bird detests and shuns filth. Mites and other insects never infest clean and well lined houses.

"We have the custom of using the scraps from the tables in the noon mash. It is not a good practice to throw table scraps about the yard. Poultry are strong in habit and very methodical. Clean poultry houses, corn, wheat and oats, and regular feeding hours, are all vital to healthy birds. Under this method we have not had an unhealthy bird in many hundreds we raised this year.

"MRS. OLIVE S. PROUTY."  
"Arcadia, Fla."

## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO HAVE COUNTY FAIR

TOO LATE, THINKS THE COMMITTEE, TO HAVE A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION FOR THE PRESENT YEAR, AND THEREFORE RECOMMENDS THAT THE FAIR BE HELD, AS LAST YEAR, UNDER THE SAME COMMITTEE, COMPOSED OF MESSRS. ED. SCOTT, S. ROSIN AND W. E. DUNWOODY. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE FAIR BE HELD ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE TAMPA FAIR.

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee on Agriculture held Tuesday morning, October 31st, 1916.

Members present, R. S. King, chairman, W. L. Carlton, H. G. Gates, F. S. Gore and A. L. Durrance. Absent, D. W. Stevenson, who was out of the city.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and on motion were adopted. Quite a number of citizens of Arcadia and the county who are always interested in a county fair, were present at this meeting, and naturally the first question that presented itself to those present was should we stage another county fair in Arcadia? All were of one accord, and that was that we must have another DeSoto County Fair this winter. The prevailing sentiment, however, was that it would not be advisable to undertake to organize a permanent fair association this late, but better still to handle the matter this time as last year.

For that reason Mr. Carlton moved that the Committee on Agriculture go on record as favoring and recommending to the Commercial Club that the 1916-1917 DeSoto County Fair be held as before, under the management of the same committee, Messrs. Ed. Scott, S. Rosin and W. E. Dunwoody, with the addition of Dr. M. T. Mace and Farm Demonstrator Joseph Crews. Motion prevailed unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Durrance

and seconded by Mr. Gore that the committee recommends that our fair be held one week prior to the date of the Tampa fair. Carried.

Mr. Carlton made a motion that the agricultural committee go as a body before the county commissioners at their next session in November to request them not only to give the movement their moral support, but make an appropriation commensurate with the needs of the occasion with which to hold finance the proposition. Motion prevailed.

With a view of creating more interest in a county fair, Mr. Gates moved that the committee recommend to the committee the idea of selecting at least one committeeman in each community in the county to co-operate with the officials in all matters pertaining to the fair. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Gore, President Lynch was requested to call a meeting of the Commercial Club at an early date to consider the recommendations of the committee relative to the fair.

By motion of Mr. Gates the committee voted to meet in the future at 7:30 p. m.

The secretary was instructed to ascertain if Miss Ruth Freeman would be able to take advantage of the free course offered her at Tallahassee.

G. S. GARDNER, Secretary.

## COUNTY COURT SESSION WILL CONVENE TUESDAY, NOV. 14TH

The names of the following twelve men have been drawn from the list of three hundred selected names from the registered voters of the county, and have been summoned by the sheriff to appear before the judge of the county court Tuesday, November the

14th, as jurors: E. R. Baldwin, C. M. Johnson, T. M. Peterson, B. B. Williams, Charles Himrod, D. S. Williams, H. R. Kinsey, W. D. Platt, W. K. Southerland, Phillip Parker, J. N. Strickland and Britt Lanier.

### Peace River W. M. U.—

The Peace River W. M. U. met with Bethany Baptist church Saturday at 10 a. m., October 28. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Jennie A. Bean, superintendent. All joined in singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name."

The devotional exercises were led by Mrs. A. A. Harris, who took for her subject "Titling." She repeated several passages of scripture on the subject, and then gave an interesting talk followed by prayer. Four societies were represented, Arcadia reported by Mrs. Bean, Punta Gorda by Mrs. Woodson, Mt. Ephraim by Mrs. Norwood, then Mrs. Edna Roberts gave a good report from the new society at New Zion, organized since the association.

Mrs. Henry Locklear, a visitor from the Tampa Bay Association, gave a good talk of how she enjoyed the work of the W. M. U.

The work of the different mission boards was presented. The Foreign Board by Mrs. Bean, who told of the work done in the different fields. Mrs. Woodson talked on the Home Board, and told an interesting story of a visit she made to a mountain school twenty miles from Newport, Tenn., last summer. Mrs. Edna Roberts read a piece telling of the work of the state board.

Rev. T. R. Woodson, Rev. John Roberts and Rev. Charles E. Bryden gave interesting talks on the relation of the W. M. U. to the church.

Mrs. Bean then called for pledges off the support of Miss Edna Albright in Columbia College, and several churches responded. We hope all the churches will take up this matter and let us know what they can do.

Mrs. Bean then organized the Bethany ladies with a W. M. U. with eighteen members, with Mrs. Ellen Bryant, president, Mrs. Rosa Gill, secretary and treasurer.

An offering amounting to \$6 was taken up for the support of Miss Edna Albright.

The closing prayer was by Rev. John Coker.

MRS. N. E. NORWOOD, Sec.

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Services by the Christian church will be held as usual at the opera house. Bible school at 9:45, and communion and preaching by the pastor, Rev. Chester Sprague, at 11 o'clock. On account of the meeting at the band stand in the afternoon, there will be no evening services. Everybody is cordially invited to attend all services of this church.

### LETTER FROM THE FRONT.

Laredo, Texas, Oct. 21, 1916.  
Dear News: Since we have been in camp at Laredo we have been very much pleased. We also enjoyed the trip down here. The trip was pretty tiresome, but we enjoyed the sight-seeing very much.

We find things down here somewhat different from what they are in Florida.

The days are real warm, but the nights are very cold; that makes the weather somewhat disagreeable for us. We also have to boil the water before using.

The streets and sidewalks here are much narrower than they are in other places. Everything is so peculiar here, therefore we find it very interesting. They have some very nice American homes here, but the majority of the population is Mexican, and they have huts and small houses.

Things are pretty quiet around here now, although there have been several Mexicans killed, and one soldier from a Maine regiment.

The Mexicans try to steal the United States mules and horses, so it is nothing unusual for the guards to shoot at them. Most of the firing is done just to scare them away.

We were called to arms one night, and several of the boys were nervous, but we noticed one in particular. He is commonly known in Arcadia as Lashley. Next morning he was recovered from the attack and showed no signs of excitement.

The Second Florida regiment is the best infantry in this brigade, so the United States Army officers say, and we all sincerely hope we will keep up our good work.

It is not known just when we will return home, but we hope soon.

Respectfully,

COMPANY K.

### MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

DeSoto Camp No. 16398, Modern Woodmen of America, is taking on new life and has arranged to adopt a large class of new members at the regular meeting Wednesday evening, November 1st, at the Masonic hall. All members of the camp are requested to be present, and visiting Woodmen are invited.

### Very Ill—

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Buchans will regret to learn of the serious illness of their little son, who is reported to be ill of tuberculosis of the hip, at their home in the eastern part of the city.

## FOUR ACRES OF FINE CUKES GROWING WITHIN CITY LIMITS

Shipping From Two Acres Of This Crop Will Begin Next Monday or Tuesday. Vines Have Nearly Covered the Ground, and Present a Beautiful Appearance.

While the cucumber crop of this section is reported as looking well, probably as good prospect as can be found is four acres that are being cultivated by J. B. Lauridson and Carl Whitlock, just one mile north of the court house, and within the city limits of Arcadia. The vines have now nearly covered the ground, and shipping will begin next week, from two acres of the earliest planting. Unless some unforeseen trouble arises, such as an early frost, it now seems practically certain that many hundreds of crates of this popular vegetable will grace the table of some of our less highly favored northern friends within the next ten days. The fact that they grew from land lying within the city limits of a city of four thousand five hundred inhabitants will make it all the more interesting.

## NEXT SATURDAY "WORK DAY" FOR THE BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Of This City. An Attempt Will Be Made to Raise \$1,000 From the Citizens. A Committee Will Call On You Saturday.

Next Saturday is what is known as "Work Day" for the Baptist Orphanage, located in this city, and all are requested to give one day's wages or earnings to the orphanage. It is hoped that the city of Arcadia will raise on this date not less than \$1,000. A committee, composed of the following persons, will call on the citizens Saturday and give them an opportunity to contribute: D. L. Lence, Harley Watson, Mrs. J. L. Livingston, and Miss Marie Saunders. It is earnestly hoped that the contributions will be liberal towards this most worthy cause, and that the full expectations of raising the thousand dollars may be realized.

### A HALLOWEEN ENTERTAINMENT AND BOX SUPPER.

An entertainment and box supper was held at the Venus High School October 27th, for the purpose of obtaining a base ball and basket ball outfit for the larger rooms, and other games for the primary rooms.

The entertainment consisted of several Halloween plays and drills by the different rooms, and while the committee was preparing the boxes for sale, the floor was held down by the Venus High School orators, Scott and Miller and Liba Johnson. At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Johnson introduced the auctioneer, Mr. Tolmudze, to the audience, and the sale of the boxes began. The building was lively during the entire sale. All told the sales amounted to \$21.85.

After the boxes were all sold, the boys found their partners and were escorted by Prof. York to the two vacant rooms, where tables had been erected. The rooms were beautifully decorated with palm leaves and yellow flowers.

When the crowd had partaken of the boxes to their satisfaction, Mrs. York introduced several Halloween games, which were enjoyed by all. It then being after 11 o'clock, by a majority vote it was decided to depart for home, with light hearts and pleasant memories.

### Removed to Bradentown—

T. A. LaByer and family removed today to Bradentown, which place they will make their future home. Mr. LaByer has secured a yacht at his new home, and will run a schedule from Bradentown to Tampa and intermediate points. Arcadia regrets to lose good citizens like this family.

### A Month's Sojourn in Mississippi—

Mrs. A. L. Durrance and two daughters, Mary and Annie, and son, Maury, arrived here about 10:30 this morning after a month's visit to friends and relatives in Meridian, Miss., making both trips on their automobile. Their many friends will be glad to know they have returned.

## NATAL HAY A COMING CROP OF SOUTH FLORIDA

The Hay Is In Every Way Equal in Feed Value to the Northern Timothy, and Can Be Raised on Much of the DeSoto County Lands. Splendid Field Just Harvested On Part of the C. H. & N. Demonstration Farm Located Just At the Edge of This City.

More and more are we convinced that the raising of Natal hay is to become one of the leading industries of Florida. We have now seen enough to know that this hay not only grows well on the rolling lands of Lake county, but it has been sufficiently tried in Polk and DeSoto counties to convince us that much of the lands here are equally as well adapted to the growth of this great hay crop. The Fort Meade Leader of this week says:

"The Natal hay industry in this section has started many of the farmers on the road to prosperity and success. We have in mind now two Fort Meade highlands farmers, W. W. Barrier and Will Taylor, who have had unusual success with this hay, which is equal to the northern timothy and in every way the equal of the famous alfalfa, and in fact, the Natal hay is becoming well known as the Florida alfalfa.

"Messrs. Barrier and Taylor planted thirty acres in Natal last season, and recently harvested the crop. We are not informed correctly just what the yield per acre was, but it is estimated that the hay yields on an average of two and one-half tons per acre. It sells for \$20 per ton, and a little figuring will readily show on which side of the ledger the big figures stand. They had a ready sale for all the hay they wished to sell, out of town firms as well as home merchants being glad to purchase the same.

"For next season's crop, Messrs. Barrier and Taylor will add thirty more acres to their present thirty acres, making in all sixty acres in Natal. Zeb Keen, also of this neighborhood, is putting in ten acres, and D. Dannemiller, another highlands farmer, is putting in fifteen acres. Other farmers will have smaller patches, but F. H. Varn, who lives just across from the Peace river bridge, will put in about forty acres in Natal hay."

### Party at Owens—

The party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Brewer Saturday night in honor of their daughter, Miss Maude Estelle Brewer, was largely attended by her many young friends of Owens. The evening was spent from 7:30 until 10 o'clock by playing many beautiful games, with some good recitations. At 9:30 the young people were invited into the dining room, where refreshments were served. The dining room was beautifully decorated with all kinds of flowers and ferns. After the refreshments were served the young people were invited out to the lawn, where they played, and later quietly went home, rejoicing over the delightful evening they had spent.

Those attending the party were: Misses Ethel Thigpen, Elsie Coulter, Lucile and Lella Simmons, Hattie Perry, Maude Worley, Lella and Viola Langford, Alene and Florence Moffett, Vivian Jernigan, Margaret Powell and Miss Florrie Jones; Messrs. Stanley Blackburn, Frank Powell, Frank and Alex Coulter, Robert Smith, Iverson Hollis, Lee Wheeler, Leonard Simmons, Dannie Jones, Lovel Lanier, Grady Brewer, Luther and Ralph Langford and Frank Pensley.

Miss Maude is one of the most charming young ladies of Owens, and is now attending the high school at Arcadia.

The party will be long remembered by her many friends.

### Address K. of P.—

Capt. George M. Lynch, the well known principal of the DeSoto County High School, left yesterday afternoon for Fort Meade to give a lecture to the K. of P. there last night.

Mrs. Roy Mobley, of McComb, Miss., who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. S. C. Ivey, for the past several days, left for Punta Gorda this morning, where she will visit Mrs. B. H. Mobley for a week, after which she will return to Arcadia for a few days, en route to her home in Mississippi.